

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to papers filed on 6/8/10.

Response to Amendment

2. In response to applicant's amendment received on 6/8/10, all requested changes to the claims have been entered. Claims 1-5, 10, 14-19 have been cancelled. Currently claims 6-9 and 11-13 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 6-9 and 11-13 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. As to claim 6, none of the prior art teach or fairly suggests the limitation of "operating an ultrasonic diagnostic imaging system further comprises processing ultrasonic echo information to produce a real time three dimensional wire frame model of an anatomical region within a volumetric region of the body being imaged", in combination with the other limitations of the claim. The prior art of Gilboa, already of record, discloses a method of observing the operation of an invasive medical device comprising: operating an invasive medical device, operating an ultrasonic diagnostic imaging system to observe the invasive device by means of a real time 3D ultrasonic image, producing coordinate information relating to the device and merging the image and coordinate information. However, Gilboa does not teach or fairly suggest operating an

Art Unit: 2624

ultrasonic diagnostic imaging system further comprises processing ultrasonic echo information to produce a real time three dimensional wire frame model of an anatomical region within a volumetric region of the body being imaged.

5. As to claim 11, none of the prior art teach or fairly suggests the limitation of “wherein merging information further comprises merging locational information into the three dimensional ultrasonic image at locations where activity of the invasive medical device has been performed; and wherein displaying further comprises displaying a plurality of ECG traces related to the locations where the activity of the invasive medical device has been performed”, in combination with the other limitations of the claim. The prior art of Gilboa, already of record, discloses a method of observing the operation of an invasive medical device comprising: operating an invasive medical device, operating an ultrasonic diagnostic imaging system to observe the invasive device by means of a real time 3D ultrasonic image, producing coordinate information relating to the device and merging the image and coordinate information. However, Gilboa does not teach or fairly suggest wherein merging information further comprises merging locational information into the three dimensional ultrasonic image at locations where activity of the invasive medical device has been performed; and wherein displaying further comprises displaying a plurality of ECG traces related to the locations where the activity of the invasive medical device has been performed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 2624

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AARON W. CARTER whose telephone number is (571)272-7445. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 5:30 pm (Mon. - Fri.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron W Carter/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624